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TOMATO FACTS

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Department of Agriculture



MURRY'S NEW EARLY  
PERFECTION TOMATO

Originated and Grown Exclusively by

JOHN MURRY

Stanberry, Missouri



JOHN MURRY

ORIGINATOR OF THE NEW  
EARLY PERFECTION  
TOMATO

Dear Friend:—During the Twenty-five years that I have been a market gardener it has been my great pleasure to meet face to face and become personally acquainted with many of my customers. I often have wished that I could meet every customer personally. But as they are scattered all over the United States and Canada, I can hardly hope to ever be able to do this. Therefore, I am writing this personal message as a grateful acknowledgement of the generous patronage and encouraging letters which you and hundreds of other customers have given me in the past. And I want every one who receives this booklet to accept it as a personal message from me. In addition to expressing my hearty appreciation I also want to explain briefly a few of the reasons why my Early Perfection tomato gives my customers such universal satisfaction and profit.

I have been a market gardener for twenty-five years and know from my own experience the disappointment and loss, which results from inferior seed and the lack of proper knowledge of this work. To protect my customers against all disappointments and loss I personally supervise every

detail connected with the growing and saving of the seed of this wonderful tomato, right up to and including the mailing of the seed to make sure that you receive seed of the highest quality to guard you against mistakes in your tomato growing. I am ready and willing at all times to give you any necessary instructions and advice in any matter pertaining to the growing of this tomato.

I learned long ago that a satisfied customer is the best advertisement that any one can have, and I will go the limit to please and satisfy every one who places his confidence in me. I feel that our interests are identical, the same, and that we should be like one great family. Each of us is in a way dependent upon the other, the growth of my business depends entirely upon your confidence in me, and your success depends upon the quality of the seed you receive, and the service I will render in helping you to raise more and better tomatoes. The cold indifferent ways of dealing with customers never did appeal to me. I like a friendly business relation and like to put myself in the other fellow's place and do all I can to help others. My aim is to serve your best interests at all times

so that our dealings will merge into loyal friendship and that you not only will continue a customer of mine, but will help me to enlarge my business by recommending my new tomato and service to your friends. I do not want anyone to feel obligated to me simply because I send them this booklet and give them the benefit of my experience. When you send me your order you may do so with the full assurance that you will receive an honest dollar's value in seed for every dollar sent me, and that in addition you may have the full benefit of my experience in growing this tomato at any time without obligations or expense. These are the principles upon which I am conducting my business, and I shall continue along these same lines because it insures pleasant and profitable business relations, and is the only fair and square method of dealing.

With Best Wishes I am

Sincerely Yours

John Murry.

## THE HISTORY OF MURRY'S NEW EARLY PERFECTION TOMATO

Some nine or ten years ago, being a wholesale market gardner I was a heavy grower of early tomatoes for

the early market, trying all early varieties as they were introduced, but growing principally Chalk's Early Jewel, it being smooth and more saleable than other early varieties at that time, although not as early as some varieties by ten days or two weeks, which means hundreds of dollars to a large early tomato grower like myself.

One day along about the 20th of June as I was walking through a field of my early Jewels which were loaded with nice green fruit, but none ripe or turning, I came across one single vine that had four or five nice ripe tomatoes on it all in one cluster, while there was another cluster of four or five turning. This vine of course, attracted my attention, and I looked the field over closely taking two rows at a time, but failed to find any more ripe ones or any turning. So I decided to save some of the seed from this vine, as it was earlier and smooth fruit that I was looking for.

When tomatoes from the South at that time were selling at 20cts a pound, however, this tomato being a wonderful yielder of large smooth fruit in large clusters, it was off in color being a dark purplish color, and not desirable for our northern mark-



ets.

I decided to try my luck by selection to get a bright red tomato out of it. I picked the lightest looking ones and saved the seed. The next year I could see but very little difference in the color of the fruit, although I had lost nothing in early lines or size of the fruit. So I decided to continue my selection of the lightest fruits for seed again the second year. This time when the fruit began to ripen I could distinguish quite a difference in the color of the fruit, but it was far from a bright red color yet. I continued selecting the lightest red fruits for seed every year until I got the desired color which is a bright red. Having gotten a permanent bright red color three years ago without any purple cast whatever.

Now as I have given you the origination of this wonderful tomato I will give you the description in full just as I have found it. In vine growth it is something on the order of the Earlianna, but more vigorous and hardy than that variety, with slightly more foliage protecting the fruit better from sun scald. This tomato sets a large number of fruit early and ripens more fruit of first setting at one time than any tomato that I

have ever seen, and continues bearing throughout the entire season from June on early set plants until killed by frost in the fall. It might be called an ever bearer, as it is the most continuous bearer of all tomatoes. Plants set this season in my seed plot May 10th began ripening fruit June 20th and continued ripening and bearing until killed by frost in October. This tomato is perfectly smooth at all times, no matter what kind of a season, all fruit large or small is perfectly smooth. In flavor it is perfection, being very solid and meaty with very few seed. Its canning quality is unsurpassed, having a very thin skin and being easier peeled than other varieties. Just imagine a tomato as solid and smooth as the stone tomato with just as good quality and the earliest tomato you ever saw and you have Murry's Perfection tomato. The seed of this tomato will always be high in price, as it is such a shy seeder, only having about one half the amount of seed that other varieties have.

### (YOUR MONEY BACK)

I have so much confidence in this tomato that if you do not find this

tomato to be all I claim for it and more too, I will refund every cent of your money without question any time within one year from date of purchase. Could there be any fairer? Price of seed post paid same as last year, honest pkt. 50cts; 3 pkts. \$1.00; ½ounce \$3.00; ounce \$5.00.

Address: John Murry,  
Stanberry, Mo.

### A FEW EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MY CUSTOMERS

I have hundreds of such letters on file in my office, praising the good qualities of Murry's New Early Perfection tomato.

Racine, Wis. Nov. 18, 1918

Mr John Murry, Stanberry Mo.—  
The Early Perfection tomato seed from you gave us very satisfactory results. They are early, nice and smooth and of good color.

Penn's Grove, N. J. 10-10-18

As to the behavior of your tomato with us under the same conditions that our other varieties received, it equalled the stone in quantity per vine, ripened evenly, and was of uniform size. The size is larger for an early tomato, and the shape is

splendid. One quality that my wife likes is the ease with which they are prepared for canning, the skin slipping off leaving a solid smooth round tomato of just the right size to go into a fruit jar whole. I wish to get some more seed for next season in time to plant for early fruit. please let me know the price and the amount you can let me have. I am enthusiastic over it, and wish to plant a greatly increased amount of land to it next year.

Oxford, Ohio. 11-4-18.

I am pleased to state that your Early Perfection tomato is entirely satisfactory. I planted two other varieties and the Perfection was really the only tomatoes I had.

Americus Ga. 10-15-18

I beg to say that I was well pleased with your Perfection tomato. Kindly quote me price on some select seed from fine specimens, and oblige.

Windom, Kans. 10-28-18

I have had excellent success with the tomato seed I bought of you. They are great bearers. I planted seed in hot bed and transplanted once. Set in the open early in spring. I had the first ripe fruit of

anyone around here.

Stanberry, Mo. 10-28-18

Friend Murry, I don't think anyone is likely to say too much in favor of your New Early Perfection tomato, for the more I see of it and the more I compare it with other varieties the brighter it shines. After a long trial of this tomato I would not have any other as an early variety. It is superior in every respect. Earlier, more prolific and will last from early spring until killed by frost. While the flavor is all one can get in any tomato. Whoever grows them will not be disappointed, they will grow and thrive where other varieties fail entirely. Yours for success.

Americus, Ga. July 15, 1918

As per your request I am writing you in regard to your new Early Perfection tomato. As I bought some of these seed from you last March and wish to say that I am absolutely pleased with them in every respect, and can unhesitatingly say that they are the finest tomato that I ever saw.

Holly, Mich. July 6, 1918

In compliance with my promise to write you about your Perfection tomato, I will say I am ready to note

them the earliest tomato we have ever had in the tomato line.

Stanberry, Mo. Jan. 3, 1918

Mr. John Murry, Dear Sir:—I will want more plants of the Murry's New Early Perfection tomato, the ones I purchased from you last year gave such excellent satisfaction that I will want more this year. They are the finest tomato I ever saw and have used. The dry weather does not seem to affect them as much as other varieties, and they are the greatest yielders I ever saw. They are large red, nice and smooth, and are excellent for table use and canning, as they are almost seedless. Trusting you will have a good sale on Murry's New Early Perfection tomato seed for 1918 I remain, Yours Very Truly.

Stanberry, Mo. Dec. 12, 17.

Having grown Murry's New Early Perfection tomato for the last three years can say without hesitation that it is the best tomato that I have ever used. This year we had ripe tomatoes by July 4th and the vines were still loaded with fruit when frost came

Stanberry, Mo. Jan. 2nd, 1918

Mr. John Murry, Dear Sir:—The Early Perfection tomato that I procured from you in the spring of 1917 were the best tomatoes ever raised by me. It is an early tomato, very solid and smooth with very few seed. I can heartily recommend the new Early Perfection as the best all around tomato of which I have any knowledge. Yours Truly.

Perth Amboy, N. J. 10-22-18

Mr. John Murry, Dear Sir:—Am so pleased to have the opportunity to say a few words of praise in favor of your New Early Perfection tomato I have been growing tomatoes for the past fifty years, and have tested every new variety that has been offered and must say that your Perfection leads them all clear over the top. Never picked so many and such fine large tomatoes from so few vines, large, solid, and smooth. Shall plant no other in the future. With many thanks I am Yours Very Truly

Battle Creek, Mich. 10-18-18

Dear Sir:—Your New Early Perfection tomato is the finest that I ever raised, and I have raised a great many kinds. People that bought them said they never canned such

nice tomatoes. They were early and perfectly smooth and ripened all over alike and free from cracks. I raised them on sandy loam under Skinner irrigation the vines were heavy which protected them from sun scald. They bore heavily and a long time. They were the only tomato that I ever raised that I did not have to assort. They were all No. 1. They are very firm, not watery and soft, but simply perfect. Yours truly.

Harrisburg, Pa. 10-18-18

Dear Mr. Murry:—The Early Perfection tomato that I got from you was all right, good bearer, nice and smooth and early. I was so pleased with them I saved some for seed.  
Yours Truly.

Holly, Mich. 9-24-18

Mr. John Murry, Dear Friend, I am writing to tell you that we were very much pleased with your New Early Perfection tomato. They are the finest in every way of any tomatoes that we have ever raised. They began ripening early, and now when the vines have been frost bitten, they are full of fruit of all sizes as well as blossoms. Yours Truly.

Quincy, Ill. 10-22-18

Mr. John Murry, Stanberry, Mo.,



Dear Sir:—I am very much pleased with your early Perfection tomato and think it is appropriately named, and is the best tasting tomato that I ever ate. Yours Truly.

Dodge Center Minn. 10-14-18

Dear Sir:—Your New Early Perfection tomato beside Langdon's Earliannas was not only several days earlier but smoother and better quality, and is the most desirable Early tomato that I have ever tried. Yours Truly.

Richland Center, Wis. 10-18-18

Mr. John Murry, Dear Sir:—In regard to your Early Perfection tomato will say I am very much pleased with its record last season. I have tried pretty much all of the extra Early varieties and it is one of the few that I will retain. Even when I set out plants of it, there was nothing but praise for it.

Yours Truly.

Milan, Mo., 10-4-18.

Mr. John Murry, Dear Sir:—Your Perfection tomato I like it fine. It stood the dry weather fine and had plenty of tomatoes all summer. They are smooth, and good flavor as I ever tried. Yours Truly.

Stanberry, Mo., Dec. 2, 1918

Mr. John Murry, Stanberry, Mo.,  
Friend John:—Have intended writing  
you for some time, but just put it off  
from time to time. I wanted to tell  
you of our success with your tomato.  
We have grown it for the last three  
seasons, and will say in all our 23  
years of home gardening we have  
never grown any thing so utterly  
satisfactory. We are all quite fond  
of tomatoes, so we notice them espe-  
cially. They are as early as the  
earliest and the fine part of it is  
they keep right on ripening fruit  
throughout the entire season and  
while the later ones may not be quite  
so large as earlier they still retain  
their smoothness and are the same  
solid meat as at first. Taking ev-  
erything in consideration, John, my-  
self and the whole family think you  
have the best tomato grown today.  
You know seeing is believing, and a  
trial by anyone of this tomato will  
convince them of its superior quali-  
ties. Wishing you success, John,  
and with best regards to yourself and  
family I am. Yours Respectfully